



## GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE THESIS AND THE FINAL EXAMINATION

### 1. Preface

These guidelines establish the procedures for the final examination of the Master's Degree in Animal Biotechnologies. Their main objectives are to standardize thesis preparation, reward high-quality work, and ensure proper evaluation during the discussion phase. Proper assessment of the thesis is essential to achieve these goals.

### 2. Regulatory References

These guidelines are drafted in accordance with:

- University Educational Regulations, issued with D.R. No. 609 of 06/08/2013 and subsequent amendments and additions, text updated according to Rectoral Decree No. 1688/2023 – Prot. No. 354214 of 28/11/2023, published in the Official University Bulletin No. 318 of 15/12/2023;
- Academic Regulations – Statutory Provisions of the Degree Programme;
- Resolutions of Academic Bodies regarding thesis preparation and the final examination

### 3. Final Examination

The final examination consists of the preparation and public defense of a thesis, written and developed originally by the student under the supervision of a thesis advisor. The thesis topic must be consistent with the objectives of the Degree Programme.

The examination evaluates the student's ability to actively participate in an experimental research project and to clearly present, discuss, and interpret the results.

**Admission requirements:** Students must have obtained all credits required for activities other than the final examination. The application for admission must be submitted by the University deadlines, following the procedures defined by the Academic Bodies.

### 4. Thesis Topic and Supervisor

- The thesis topic must be chosen from courses included in the student's study plan. Topics outside the plan require authorization from the Degree Programme Council;
- Eligible supervisors include tenured faculty (full and associate professors), researchers responsible for teaching activities, and contract professors. Co-supervisors may be



appointed from the same categories, with approval by the main supervisor if non-tenured staff is involved;

- The Degree Programme Coordinator, delegated by the Course Council (05/12/2022), may authorize supervisors in specific scientific-disciplinary sectors even if these courses are not in the study plan, provided the research aligns with the Degree Programme's objectives:
  - VET 01–10, BIO 05–19
  - AGR 01/07/17/18
  - MED 03–19
  - MED 26/28/30/31/33/35/36/40/42/43/44/46/49/5

Consistency will be verified by the Coordinator on behalf of the Council.

- The thesis may be linked to a project or internship.

## 5. Thesis Preparation Guidelines

- Language: Italian or English (English required for internships abroad or if a foreign co-supervisor is appointed)
- Title must be agreed upon with the supervisor
- Format:
  - Length: 50,000–100,000 characters (including spaces)
  - Fonts: Times New Roman or Arial, body 12–13 pt, footnotes 10 pt
  - Margins: 2.5 cm all around
  - Line spacing: 1.5

**Abstract:** Within the online graduation application, candidates must provide an abstract of no more than 2,000 characters summarizing the research, methodology, and main results. The abstract must be reviewed and approved by the supervisor.

## 6. Evaluation and Grading

- Minimum passing grade: 66/110
- Evaluation considers the candidate's academic record and performance in the final examination.
- The Committee receives the "graduation report," including the weighted average grade and academic record.

### Additional points for the final score:

- 0.25 points for each 30 cum laude, up to 1 point;
- 1 point for on-time graduation;



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- Up to 1 point for a thesis of high scientific value at accredited foreign institutions (Resolution of the Course Council, 05/12/2022);
- The co-supervisor evaluates the thesis using a standardized form (0–3 points), considering completeness, depth, clarity, scientific relevance, editing, and bibliography;
- The Committee may assign an additional 3 points, taking the supervisor's evaluation into account;
- Maximum additional points available: 9

For a maximum grade (110/110), honors may be awarded unanimously by the Committee.